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PRESS RELEASE

January 31, 2005

DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

RE: UNITED STATES v. RONALD KIEFFER

Michael A. Battle, the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced today that Ronald Kieffer, age 54, of Wellsville, New York, plead guilty in front of the Honorable Charles J. Siragusa, United States District Court Judge, to possessing child pornography, which carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a maximum of 20 years imprisonment, and a \$250,000 fine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who handled the case, stated that on December 3, 2005, KIEFFER dropped off his computer at a computer repair store. KIEFFER told the owner of the store to take precautions to preserve the pictures that were stored on the hard drive of the computer. While repairing the computer, the repair store technician discovered images of child pornography, and the FBI was contacted.

The next day, December 4, 2005, KIEFFER showed up at the FBI's office in Elmira and admitted to possessing child pornography on his computer and visiting numerous child pornography websites over the past four years.

It was determined that KIEFFER possessed more than 300 images of child pornography. Some of the child pornography images depicted prepubescent minors or minors under twelve years old, and portrayed sadistic or masochistic conduct or other depictions of violence.

The charges in this case were the culmination of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn.

Sentencing for Keiffer is scheduled for May 3, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. Kieffer's anticipated sentence will be between 135 and 168 months.

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